

IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) An electric power steering apparatus comprising:
a steering system
an electric motor producing steering assist torque corresponding to steering torque applied to said steering system; and
a worm gear mechanism transmitting the steering assist torque to said steering system,
wherein, said worm gear mechanism includes a worm operatively connected to said electric motor and a worm wheel operatively connected to said steering system and meshing with said worm, and said worm has a pressure angle greater than a pressure angle of said worm wheel.
2. (Cancel)
3. (Currently amended) An electric power steering apparatus ~~as claimed in claim 2~~ comprising:
a steering system including a rack and pinion assembly;
an electric motor producing steering assist torque corresponding to steering torque applied to said steering system; and
a worm gear mechanism transmitting the steering assist torque to said steering system,
wherein said worm gear mechanism includes a worm operatively connected to said electric motor and a worm wheel operatively connected to said steering system and meshing with said worm, and said worm is a single-thread worm,

wherein said worm is made of metal while said worm wheel is made of resin, and wherein said worm wheel has a tooth thickness ~~grater~~ greater than a tooth height.

4. (Currently amended) An electric power steering apparatus ~~as claimed in claim 2~~ comprising:

a steering system including a rack and pinion assembly;

an electric motor producing steering assist torque corresponding to steering torque applied to said steering system; and

a worm gear mechanism transmitting the steering assist torque to said steering system,

wherein said worm gear mechanism includes a worm operatively connected to said electric motor and a worm wheel operatively connected to said steering system and meshing with said worm, and said worm is a single-thread worm,

wherein said worm has a pressure angle greater than a pressure angle of said worm wheel.